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 All business communications should be addressed to Power & Barksdale, Jackson, Miss.

RATHER THIN!—The Governor has declined to accept the resignation of Mr. Willing, of Copiah, until after the close of the present session.

It would seem by his card that Mr. P. Donan of the Caucasian newspaper has definitely settled the question as to whether he was a Preacher of the Gospel in this city in 1839. Inasmuch as he was not born at that time, the story is hardly probable.

A Bill providing for the management of the Penitentiary by the State, has passed the Senate. And we are glad to see that the excellent measure of Mr. McIntosh, already noticed in our columns, for redempting the title to lands forfeited to the State, on terms exceedingly favorable to tax-payers, and in other respects beneficial, has passed the House.

To show how the public money goes we may mention the proposition of an Opposition Representative a few days ago that a Select Committee of the Legislature should be appointed to visit and inspect and report upon the condition of the Hospitals in different portions of the State—the expenses of the Committee to be paid, and a Clerk to be furnished them at a cost of \$60 per day. There is no occasion for this expense. It is the duty of the Trustees and Superintendents of these Institutions to report their condition to the Governor; and it is his duty to communicate the facts to the Legislature for such legislation as may be required.

CENTENARY ANNIVERSARY.—An act of Congress was passed on the 3rd of March last to provide for the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of American Independence, which will be the 4th of July, 1876. The ceremonies are to take place at the city of Philadelphia, and the occasion is to be an exhibition of American and foreign arts, products and manufactures. The law provides that in addition to a committee appointed by the authorities of Philadelphia, a commissioner shall be appointed by the Governor of each State, constituting a Board to superintend the celebration and execute all the purposes of the act. The initial meeting of the commissioners will be held at Philadelphia by appointment of the council of that city, on the 4th of March (inst.). We are informed that the Governor has appointed Hon. O. C. French as the commissioner on behalf of Mississippi.

Political Movements.
 One of the most significant indications of the pending Presidential campaign, was the formal introduction in the Senate on the 23d, by Mr. Trumbull, of Illinois, of the Platform of the Missouri Liberals. For this, he was read out of the Republican party, by the month-piece of the Grant Administration, Mr. Morton.

It is not to be presumed that a step so important had been taken by the thoughtful and sagacious Illinois Senator, without due deliberation.

It seems that the probabilities of a combination of all the refractory and liberal elements of opposition to the existing Radical rule of plunder and oppression, are increasing. A consummation of this kind would be the grandest achievement of true statesmanship and of genuine patriotism. We of Mississippi can only watch and wait and abide the action of our allies of other States who have a common cause with ours. "We are in no condition to dictate a policy—much less to lead."

Cost of the State Government for the year 1871.

The Auditor's Report contains much valuable matter for the instruction of the public. And it has nothing more worthy of consideration than its statement of the expenses of the State Government for the year 1871. The Report shows that the entire expense amounted to the unprecedented sum of \$1,729,046. The items which make up what are known as the ordinary expenses of the government are worthy of special observation. The Legislative Department cost \$201,072. The Judiciary cost \$389,991. The Executive Department (not including the Secret Service Fund) cost \$39,922. Public Printing \$120,000.—Commissions for assessing amounted to \$118,000. These expenditures average four times as much as the cost under the same heads, before the war; and in some instances more. For instance, the commissions for assessing. They never exceeded \$20,000 on a taxable basis of \$600,000,000. Now they are six times in excess of that sum on a taxable basis of only \$150,000,000!

Besides these expenditures for ordinary purposes, large sums were expended for other objects, amounting to the unprecedented aggregate of one million seven hundred and twenty nine thousand and sixty six dollars. No wonder the people are exclaiming in their impatience—How long!

The Louisville Ledger, which was established some months ago by a number of merchants, for the purpose of breaking down the Louisville Courier-Journal, has, after the vicissitudes incident to joint stock journalism, been forced to suspend publication.

The best part of the platform of the Labor Reformers was omitted from the telegraphic report. Here it is:

Resolved, That we demand the subjection of the military to the civil authorities, and the confinement of its operation to the national purposes alone.

VOL. XXXV.—NO. 14

THE LAND SCRIP AFFAIR.

The Reports Concerning It.

Elsewhere we have published the report (majority) of two of the committee appointed to investigate this matter; and also the minority report of Gen. Lowry, to which the dominant party in the House refused entrance upon the journals, thus stifling the voice of the minority and preventing a fair record to be made of the management, or rather, mismanagement, of the fund donated by Congress for the benefit of colleges devoted to instruction in Agriculture and the Mechanic arts. In order to present the matter fairly before the public, we also recently published the report of ex-Governor Alcorn to the acting Governor.

The report of Gen. Lowry will show how the act of Congress making the donation, and the act of the Legislature accepting and providing for its management—have been violated. Nothing is left for doubt or inference. The facts as stated by ex-Governor Alcorn, viewed by the light of the law of Congress and the law of the Legislature which was passed for his guidance, are conclusive.

1. Gen. Lowry's report shows that the Law of 1871 expressly directed that the Governor should sell the scrip for "cash," and that he sold it on time.

2. That he was required to invest the proceeds "immediately" in "safe" State or United States bonds, and that he did not do it.

(Governor Alcorn admits that he violated his instructions in this regard because the late Legislature did not pass a certain bill which he thought desirable.)

3. That he was required to deposit the "bonds" after having "immediately" invested the proceeds of the scrip in them, with the State Treasurer, and that the said proceeds not having been so invested are lying about loose, here and there.

As we have before said, these facts are developed by the statements of ex-Governor Alcorn himself; but they are brought out in bolder relief and the finishing touch is put upon them by the scathing and powerful report of General Lowry, which the majority of the House have not permitted to go upon the record of that body, but which will be of record in the more imposing and accessible form of the newspapers of the country.

Our able cotemporary of the Hinds County Gazette is one of the clearest-headed and best-hearted of men, but like most other people, he has his hobby. His mind continually rides at anchor to the one idea that somebody is trying to commit some outrage or other on the old Whig party. For instance, he appears to put trust in a rumor whispered by somebody that the votes of the Democrats and Conservatives in the Legislature for the Pilot over the Leader, was designed "to build up and strengthen the old-line Democratic party of the State, and punish the old Union and Whig element now and for all time!"

We assure our cotemporary that nothing could be more fallacious and absurd. As high as we can ascertain, three-fourths of the present Democratic or Conservative members were old-line Whigs or the descendants of such. It is not reasonable that they would have formed a conspiracy against themselves!

So far as THE CLARION is concerned, we beg our friend of the Gazette to let his mind be at ease. One of us always had for it the greatest respect in its life, and would say nothing, unless good of it in its death; and another of us was too loyal and true a member of it to tolerate any injustice to its memory or to his compatriots who have survived its dissolution. We are striving to keep up with the times; and to act on the rule to let the dead (part) bury its dead.

Central Brown's Confession.
 Recently we said that Central Brown who has gabbled without ceasing about the Printer's Election and worked himself into a condition of extreme wretchedness in consequence of it—"preferred to had a finger in the business himself," if we have not been misinformed. Having been called to the stand, with a vast deal of circumlocution, he tells the story as follows:

The editor and proprietor of the Central was not to have succeeded the Public Printing office in the State. In part, he was his own terms and upon his own platform, outside of the Republican party and independent of any Radical combination or partnership.

Which means that he would have "accepted." Again:
 It was not impossible, however, nor was it improbable that developments might have taken place in the Central as a candidate, which developments were contingent wholly upon the State. The Central was a man of the ranks and upon the steadfastness of the Democratic and Conservative members of the Legislature to consistency and principle. The Republicans, falling to elect an organ of their own, were forced outside their party to elect a State Printer. It was only under circumstances that kind that the Central alone, upon its own terms and in its own way, had been voted for, and had such an occasion occurred we expected to succeed over THE CLARION.

Which means that Central hoped for a permanent rupture in the Radical ranks—that in this event the Rads would have gone outside of their party to find a candidate—and that in as much as Central was less objectionable to the Rads than THE CLARION, he expected to succeed over THE CLARION by their votes! This is the way Central had fixed it up in his own head; and hence, when he found that things did not work out that way, not having got "his finger in the business"—he has expressed his disappointment by wild lamentation, and illustrated it by execrable wood-cuts. In connection with the foregoing, Central testifies to

ANOTHER FACT—

as follows:
 "We expected to succeed, not that we were stronger with the Democracy than THE CLARION—the reverse was true, and that neither of us would have succeeded without Republican votes must also be conceded, etc., etc."

Again he says:
 "We verily believe that the Central, or some other Conservative paper, outside the Republican party would have succeeded in the State Printer, and that a result, as desired."

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